

The Oregonian.

PORTLAND SATURDAY JANUARY 8, 1887

WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

In another column THE OREGONIAN prints a letter containing a number of inquiries about the wheat market at Portland and at San Fran- cisco. It will answer them as fully and as com- pletely as possible.

The difference between the prices of wheat in Portland and in San Francisco is uniformly about 20 cents per 100 lbs. This is just the difference now. "Why this difference?"

Twenty cents per 100 lbs. is twelve cents per bushel, or four dollars per ton. Tonnage from Portland is ten shillings higher than from San Francisco. This accounts for about \$2.50 of the \$4 per ton.

But why do ships from Portland cost \$2.50 per ton more than from San Francisco? The principal reason is that San Francisco is a great shipping port, to which many are attracted from all parts of the world. San Francisco, therefore, becomes a great tonnage market.

Vessels going to that port carry to it cargoes of every description, and if other cargoes are want- ing they take coal, which always finds a market there. When vessels get inward cargoes they can take outward cargoes at less rates. Moreover, the competition among the numerous vessels at such a port as San Francisco tends to reduce the tonnage market, and the 10 shillings per ton demanded by vessels at Portland in excess of the rates obtained at San Francisco is the natural and fair price of the necessary result of the state of affairs. There are no mistakes in this about it. A condition such as this, it could not be otherwise.

But wheat is worth 20 cents per 100 lbs., or \$4 per ton, more in San Francisco than in Portland, why is not our wheat shipped to San Francisco? A considerable amount is shipped to that place. But it has not been found really payable either to shippers or to steamers. There isn't a particle of sentiment about the business; it is simply a question whether money can be made, or not, and of the whole the re- sults have not been satisfactory.

We have seen that \$4 per ton is taken up by the ship, the remaining \$1 per ton is

paid to the steamer, and all others are to take what is left.

Tom Mountain is to be taught a lesson. He is to be shown, and all others are to take warn- ing, that it won't do to interfere with the ring's system of vote buying.

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST.

OREGON.

The Corvallis correspondent of the Oregonian says: "The Corvallis convention of the Oregonian is over. The corollaries are said to lay their claims on all vacant stock water, and several filings have been made lately, in opposition to sheepmen. There are no sheep on the slopes of Mount Hood, and the January Sheepherders hold their range with firearms and stand by it."

There is urgency for a "Sunday express" to the Corvallis convention of the O. & N. This is indeed a "hot" topic. A Sunday express as far as Eugene City would be a great accom- modation, and would be in accord with the quickening in tempo of the country. It is needed too for transportation of the mails. Such a mail toot for express would be a great convenience whatever. Let us hope that the O. & N. management will inaugurate the plan.

One of the meanest acts of partisanship that has disgraced our recent history was the refusal of the mailmen of the postoffice building of New York to pay Logan the honor of a lowered flag, which he hastened to drop at the death of a rotten democratic politician, Hubert O. Thompson.

George has a new "baw" the *bullet*. The first number makes a good showing.

"George Elkins escaped from the police on the 21st of December, and has been at large ever since. He has been an active and energetic member of the institution for the past two years, and has come to be regarded as a trusty, having allowed the freedom of the building and grounds to him.

George seems to have created some- thing of a sensation by his nine column article against the pope. But it is only a thimble of a thimble. The officers at once took the matter in hand, and have notified every prostitute in linked to George to leave the city. Quite a number have already left, and others will leave in a few days.

SAE EL.

Willie Billie is most certainly a child of misfortune. He will be 17 years old the 27th of next month, and in yet that short time he has had his right leg broken twice, his arm broken twice, his nose broken, and twice of his fingers broken, and has been the subject of many other diseases. It is both terrible and tragic.

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George is the author of the three cam- mons and the last to arrive, came on the Short Line Monday evening. The census of the Indians will be the first work the commissioners suggest.

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